

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 386 and yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 386, sponsored by our colleague, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS), conveys 9 acres of federally owned land and administrative buildings to the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District in Washington State. No project facilities, such as dams, diversion structures or canals, are included in this title transfer. The transfer has been in the works for almost a decade.

This legislation, also introduced by the junior Senator from Washington State, will enhance more private ownership and decrease the Federal Government's liability. It is a win for the local community and a win for the American taxpayer.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bipartisan legislation.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS).

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 386 is a pretty straightforward bill. This legislation would authorize the transfer of about 9 acres of Federal property along with a few associated structures from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District in central Washington.

The irrigation district has fully repaid its obligations to the Federal Government related to these properties and now simply pays the bureau for their operation and maintenance. This conveyance would enable the irrigation district to make needed improvements, while allowing the bureau to focus its limited resources where they are more urgently needed.

This legislation is based on a formula agreement negotiated between the bureau and the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District in 2004. I commend the irrigation district and the staff of the bureau for working together at the local level to resolve the concerns of the parties involved.

Mr. Speaker, this same legislation passed unanimously during the previous Congress, but didn't get through during the final parts of the session. So I urge my colleagues to support this bill again today so that we may move it on to the other body.

I want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member YOUNG of the Natural Resources Committee and their staff for their assistance in expediting this bill.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 386.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

AMERICAN RIVER PUMP STATION PROJECT TRANSFER ACT OF 2007

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 482) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer ownership of the American River Pump Station Project, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 482

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "American River Pump Station Project Transfer Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER.

The Secretary of the Interior (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall transfer ownership of the American River Pump Station Project located at Auburn, California, which includes the Pumping Plant, associated facilities, and easements necessary for permanent operation of the facilities, to the Placer County Water Agency, in accordance with the terms of Contract No. 02-LC-20-7790 between the United States and Placer County Water Agency and the terms and conditions established in this Act.

SEC. 3. FEDERAL COSTS NONREIMBURSABLE.

Federal costs associated with construction of the American River Pump Station Project located at Auburn, California, are non-reimbursable.

SEC. 4. GRANT OF REAL PROPERTY INTEREST.

The Secretary is authorized to grant title to Placer County Water Agency as provided in section 2 in full satisfaction of the United States' obligations under Land Purchase Contract 14-06-859-308 to provide a water supply to the Placer County Water Agency.

SEC. 5. COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Before conveying land and facilities pursuant to this Act, the Secretary shall comply with all applicable requirements under—

- (1) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);
- (2) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); and
- (3) any other law applicable to the land and facilities.

(b) EFFECT.—Nothing in this Act modifies or alters any obligations under—

- (1) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); or
- (2) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

SEC. 6. RELEASE FROM LIABILITY.

Effective on the date of transfer to the Placer County Water Agency of any land or

facility under this Act, the United States shall not be liable for damages arising out of any act, omission, or occurrence relating to the land and facilities, consistent with Article 9 of Contract No. 02-LC-20-7790 between the United States and Placer County Water Agency.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 482 directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands and the water pumping facility under construction on the American River to the Placer County Water Agency in California. Currently, the Bureau of Reclamation is obligated by a previous agreement to supply temporary pumping service to satisfy the water rights of the Placer County Water Agency. This temporary pumping is done at considerable cost to the Bureau of Reclamation. The American River Pump Station will provide a permanent facility for the delivery of water to that agency.

H.R. 482 allows the bureau to satisfy its contractual obligations by transferring this facility and eliminates the continued cost of providing temporary pumping service to that agency.

In the 109th Congress, the Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on similar legislation, and the bill was subsequently favorably reported by the committee and passed by the House. We have no objections to this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 482, and yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 482, introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE), directs the Secretary of the Interior to transfer ownership of the American River Pump Station Project to the Placer County Water Agency in Northern California. To facilitate construction of the Auburn Dam nearly 40 years ago, the Federal Government removed a locally owned pump station located at the dam site.

The dam was never built. Now the Federal Government is building a permanent pump station to replace the

one it removed years earlier. Under an agreement, the Federal Government must transfer the pump station to the local water users once construction is complete. Before the transfer can take place, congressional authorization is needed, and this legislation achieves that purpose.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE), the author of the bill.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the chairman of the committee, Mr. RAHALL, and the ranking member, Mr. YOUNG, and also thank Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS for their help on this legislation.

This has been quite a few years in production. The pump station is almost complete. It will be completed next year sometime, we anticipate; and we would like to have this last detail of the transfer put in order.

You have heard the explanation as to why we need the legislation, fulfilling an obligation made by the Federal Government years ago to the Placer County Water Agency.

I am very appreciative to our colleagues for bringing this bill up and urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be here today in support of H.R. 482, the American River Pump Station Project Transfer Act. This legislation will authorize the transfer of ownership of the American River Pump Station, located in Auburn, CA, to the Placer County Water Agency (Agency). I would like to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Natural Resources Committee for bringing this legislation to the floor in such a timely manner.

During the 1960s, the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) acquired the site of the original American River Pump Station and removed it to facilitate contraction of the Auburn Dam. When construction of the dam was halted, the Agency was left unable to meet its water needs. Since 1990, the Bureau has installed seasonal pumps to help the Agency provide water during the dry summer. Unfortunately, these pumps need to be removed each winter and reinstalled in time for the summer months. This is an expensive process that leaves the Agency without the long-term water-use certainty it needs. To remedy this situation, a new American River Pump Station will be constructed by the Bureau, and this legislation is needed to authorize the transfer of that station to the local agency for future operations.

This legislation is supported by the Bureau, the Agency and the local elected officials, and I appreciate all their hard work in this endeavor. I would specifically like to thank the members of the Placer County Water Agency: Current Board Chairman Lowell Jarvis; board members Alex Ferreira, Otis Wollen, and Mike Lee; and new board member Grey Allen have all worked to enable the Agency to meet the water-use needs of the community it serves. I also want to recognize former board member Pauline Rocucci who spoke with me many times on this issue. I want to thank General Manager Dave Breninger, who has been and remains a tireless and passionate advocate of

the permanent pump station and Strategic Affairs Director Einar Maisch who offered strong testimony in support of this bill and helped us to get here today.

As the completion of the pump station will provide regional benefits to so many in Western Placer County, I want to thank the City Councils in Rocklin and Lincoln and our County Board of Supervisors for their steadfast support of this critical project. I would also be remiss for not recognizing the commitment and dedication of two local U.S. Bureau of Reclamation staff: Regional Director Kirk Rodgers and Central Area Office Manager Mike Finnegan.

This entire group made up the team which worked for years in advancing the permanent American River Pump Station to get us to the point we are at today, and it is with them in mind that I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 482.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Hopefully, we will be able to continue working in a bipartisan manner to get these very, very critical projects going and approved and moving out of this House. I am sure that we are going to have others that are just equally important. I hope the same consideration is given to all those.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, let me just say congratulations to the chairman of the Water and Power Subcommittee. I do look forward to working with her on a bipartisan basis to move many of these projects forward, important projects, all across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 482.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 161, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 386, by the yeas and nays.

The postponed vote on H.R. 482 will be taken tomorrow.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The re-

maining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND JAPANESE AMERICAN MONUMENT ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 161.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 161, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 419, nays 0, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 76]

YEAS—419

Abercrombie	Clarke	Giffords
Ackerman	Clay	Gilchrest
Aderholt	Cleaver	Gillibrand
Akin	Clyburn	Gillmor
Alexander	Coble	Gingrey
Allen	Cohen	Gohmert
Altmire	Cole (OK)	Gonzalez
Andrews	Conyers	Goode
Arcuri	Cooper	Goodlatte
Baca	Costello	Gordon
Bachmann	Courtney	Granger
Bachus	Cramer	Graves
Baird	Crenshaw	Green, Al
Baker	Crowley	Green, Gene
Baldwin	Cubin	Grijalva
Barrett (SC)	Cuellar	Gutierrez
Barrow	Culberson	Hall (NY)
Bartlett (MD)	Cummings	Hall (TX)
Barton (TX)	Davis (AL)	Hare
Bean	Davis (CA)	Harman
Becerra	Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)
Berkley	Davis (KY)	Hastings (WA)
Berman	Davis, David	Hayes
Berry	Davis, Tom	Heller
Biggert	Deal (GA)	Hensarling
Bilbray	DeFazio	Hерger
Bilirakis	DeGette	Herseth
Bishop (GA)	Delahunt	Higgins
Bishop (NY)	DeLauro	Hill
Bishop (UT)	Dent	Hinchee
Blackburn	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hinojosa
Blumenauer	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hirono
Blunt	Dicks	Hobson
Boehner	Dingell	Hodes
Bonner	Doggett	Hoekstra
Boozman	Donnelly	Holden
Boren	Doolittle	Holt
Boswell	Doyle	Honda
Boucher	Drake	Hooley
Boustany	Dreier	Hoyer
Boyd (FL)	Duncan	Hulshof
Boyda (KS)	Edwards	Hunter
Brady (PA)	Ehlers	Inglis (SC)
Brady (TX)	Ellison	Inslee
Braley (IA)	Ellsworth	Israel
Brown (SC)	Emanuel	Issa
Brown, Corrine	Emerson	Jackson (IL)
Brown-Waite,	Engel	Jackson-Lee
Ginny	English (PA)	(TX)
Buchanan	Eshoo	Jefferson
Burgess	Etheridge	Jindal
Burton (IN)	Everett	Johnson (GA)
Butterfield	Fallin	Johnson (IL)
Calvert	Farr	Johnson, E. B.
Camp (MI)	Fattah	Johnson, Sam
Campbell (CA)	Feeney	Jones (NC)
Cannon	Ferguson	Jones (OH)
Cantor	Filner	Jordan
Capito	Flake	Kagen
Capps	Forbes	Kanjorski
Capuano	Fortenberry	Kaptur
Cardoza	Fossella	Keller
Carnahan	Fox	Kennedy
Carney	Frank (MA)	Kildee
Carson	Franks (AZ)	Kilpatrick
Castle	Frelinghuysen	Kind
Castor	Gallegly	King (IA)
Chabot	Garrett (NJ)	King (NY)
Chandler	Gerlach	Kingston